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Forest Management Plan NEWSLETTER

The Government of Western Australia acknowledges the traditional owners throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

In particular, DBCA acknowledges the Noongar people as the traditional owners and native title holders within the Forest Management Plan area in the south-west of Western Australia and respects the continuing connection and importance of forests to their cultural, physical and spiritual health.

Welcome to Issue 10 of the FMP 2024-2033 eNewsletter

In this issue:

- Public comment period closed
- What is the forest management plan?
- More information

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A two-month public consultation period for the *Draft Forest Management Plan* 2024-2033 was conducted from 18 October to 18 December 2022.

We received thousands of submissions from stakeholders and the public about the future management of our south-west forests.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to make a submission and provide us with thoughtful and considered comments. We would also like to thank all the stakeholders who compiled submissions on behalf of their members.

We are now working to review the submissions so they can be considered in the development of a final plan, scheduled for release in 2023. A summary of public submissions will also be published, along with the final *Forest Management Plan 2024-2033*.

In our preliminary assessment of submissions, some of the key themes we are seeing include:

- implications of the cessation of native forest timber harvesting (transition plan, timber supply chain, sustainability of imported timber)
- the impact of mining on the forests
- greater protection of northern jarrah forests
- prescribed burning practices and fire management
- ecological thinning
- firewood availability.

To learn how submissions are being considered, you can read our public consultation FAQ at dbca.wa.gov.au/forest-management-plan-faq.

More information about the plan including fact sheets, frequently asked questions, and published issues of the FMP eNewsletter is available on our webpage at dbca.wa.gov.au/forest-management-plan.

If you have any questions about the forest management plan, please email the team at forest.info@dbca.wa.gov.au.

What is the forest management plan?

A forest management plan outlines the approach to protecting and managing forests in Western Australia's south-west national parks, conservation parks,

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on how new Government policy settings will be achieved.

The *Draft Forest Management Plan* 2024-2033 was prepared by the Conservation and Parks Commission (through the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions) in accordance with the *Conservation and Land Management Act* 1984.

This followed wide-ranging consultation with government agencies, key stakeholders and the

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community, and is informed by scientific research and management experience, input from technical experts and results from monitoring and evaluation processes.

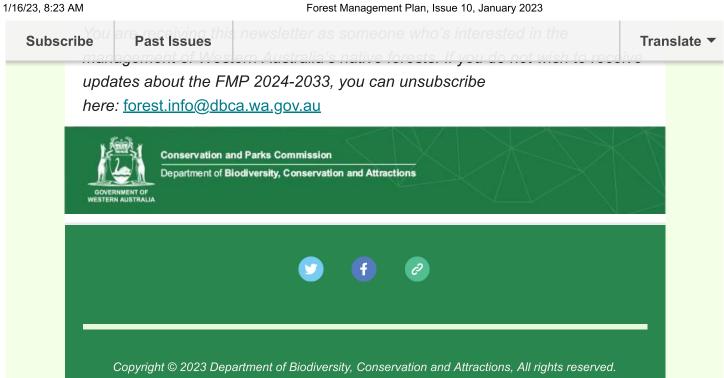
Designed to be more concise and readable than the current FMP, the draft plan has an increased focus on Noongar values and the drying and warming climate of the south-west. It also provides for improved protection of our south-west forests, including at least an additional 400,000 hectares being included in national parks, conservation parks and nature reserves.

While public submissions have now closed, you can still read the draft plan on the FMP webpage at docs.nc.gov.au/forest-management-plan.

More information

If you know of anyone who might like to receive these eNewsletters, please invite them to <u>complete this online form</u> and we'll add them to our stakeholder register.

Join us on social media – we'll share key milestones about the draft plan on WA Parks and Wildlife Service channels such as <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.



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